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DAHLIAS

For

1928



Grower and Introducer of the
World's Best Dahlias



JOHN HARDING

THE AUTOCRAT DAHLIA
GARDENS

NORWALK, CONNECTICUT

Dahlia Aristocrats

From The
Autocrat Dahlia Gardens

1928

GREETING—

I TAKE PLEASURE in presenting my 1928 Catalogue and at this time express my thanks for your kind patronage and hope to be again favored with your orders, which, I assure you, will receive the same careful attention that I have always enjoyed showing my customers.

My own introductions I am sure have met with the approval of all that have tried them. Each year I try and add to my collection only dahlias of quality and distinction that are most satisfactory from a standpoint of garden cutting and exhibition. Our prize winning exhibits show the outstanding merit of our own origination.

PRIZES WON DURING 1927

GOLD MEDAL RIBBON

At the A. D. S. at New York, September, 1927

Connecticut Horticultural Society Flower
Show, held in Hartford, Conn.

FIRST PRIZE for the best Trade Display

FIRST PRIZE for the best 3-year-old Seedling

SILVER CUP for the best Collection of
Seedlings

LARGEST FLOWER in the Show with
Rose Fallon

BEST FLOWER in the Show with
R. T. Edwards

SILVER MEDAL of the A. D. S. for the most
points scored in the Show

Winners in all other shows where entered
in competition

ANNOUNCEMENT

IT IS with great pleasure that we inform our friends and customers that our show gardens will in the future be on the estate of Alden H. Vose, Esq., in Westport, Conn., which was formerly the Marean Estate, where we shall continue to conduct our rapidly growing business in the same high manner.

We have many new originations which I am sure will interest all dahlia lovers. A cordial invitation is extended to all dahlia lovers to visit the gardens, where you will see thousands of beautiful plants in blossom.

Yours very truly,

JOHN HARDING.

NEW CREATIONS OF UNRIVALED MERIT FOR 1928

PRINCESS ILLEANA DECORATIVE

This dahlia was selected by the Princess to be named for her.

This splendid new variety is a beautiful combination of salmon pink with golden suffusion. The flowers are held on fine stems and attract immediate attention. The plants are thrifty growers with dark green foliage.

Tubers, **\$10.00.** Strong Plants, **\$5.00**

FLORENCE VOSE DECORATIVE

This is a splendid new variety. The flowers are large and deep, of fine form. The stems are perfect. In color it is rose ash with an Amaranth reverse. Vigorous grower and free bloomer. Admired by all visitors at our gardens.

Tubers, **\$10.00.** Strong Plants, **\$5.00**

MRS. REUBEN SWAN DECORATIVE

Splendid exhibition variety, large and full blooms of fine form, each petal having a slight wave which adds to the grace of the flower. Color is a delightful shade of Indian Skin with Apricot reverse. Fine stems hold the massive flowers upright. Vigorous grower.

Tubers, **\$10.00.** Strong Plants, **\$5.00**

MISS NORWALK DECORATIVE

This beautiful variety has very good quality. The flowers are large and of a copper and gold with a reverse of petals tangerine. Vigorous grower. A prize winner.

Tubers, **\$10.00.** Strong Plants, **\$5.00**

LILLIAN CAMPBELL DECORATIVE

An exceptional dahlia which will produce an abundance of flowers throughout the season. The color is a clear pink and a splendid variety for exhibition or cut flower. A very attractive variety. In addition to superb color, it has form and substance to recommend it.

Tubers, **\$5.00.** Strong Plants, **\$2.50**

ANNA MARIE FREY DECORATIVE

A very bright red, with all the good qualities of dahlia Judge Marean. A very fine variety. Much admired at the A. D. S. Show September, 1927.

Tubers, **\$5.00.** Strong Plants, **\$2.50**

THE VILLAIN DECORATIVE

In color this variety is a beautiful shade of violet. It is a splendid form of decorative and the flowers are large and on good stems. Plants are strong, healthy growers of wide spreading habit. A real good dahlia.

Tubers, **\$5.00.** Strong Plants, **\$2.50**

AGNES SMYTHE DECORATIVE

A very strong grower and free bloomer, producing flowers of largest size; formation like Chrysanthemum. Color, a pleasing combination of red and yellow. Held on fine stems.

Tubers, **\$5.00.** Strong Plants, **\$2.50**

PEACHY DECORATIVE

This is a good exhibition and cut flower variety. The color is a mallow pink, shading to white. The growth of the plant is medium in height and are thrifty growers.

Tubers, **\$5.00.** Strong Plants, **\$2.50**

MISS PAULA STONE DECORATIVE

This is a splendid variety, either for a cut flower or exhibition. It is pale amber-gold, shading with rose. The fine flowers are carried on ideal stems and are of beautiful formation. This variety won first prize as the best three-year-old seedling at the Connecticut Horticultural Society flower show in Hartford, Conn., September, 1927.

Strong Plants Only, \$5.00

DON JUAN DECORATIVE

Large flowers, of a flame and gold color; blooms are carried on stiff stems well above the foliage. This beautiful variety has every good quality. A favorite.

Strong Plants only, \$5.00

QUEEN MARIE DECORATIVE

Formerly "The Autocrat". This dahlia was selected by Queen Marie of Roumania to be named for her during her visit to this country. An incomparable dahlia of exquisite beauty and great size, having every desirable quality. The color, shrimp pink with yellow suffusion, with a distinct reverse of silver. Vigorous grower and a wonderful keeper when cut.

Tubers, **\$5.00.** Strong Plants, **\$2.50**

CANARY BIRD DECORATIVE

Color: Delicate shade of primrose yellow. Large flowers of good depth, carried on strong, stiff stems. Vigorous grower, very free bloomer. Admired by all visitors at our gardens.

Tubers, **\$5.00.** Strong Plants, **\$2.50**

E. E. HANBURY DECORATIVE

An exceptionally fine exhibition variety of a pleasing shade of silvered red. Very vigorous grower; very free bloomer. Should be in every really fine collection.

Tubers, **\$5.00.** Strong Plants, **\$2.50**

LILLIAN HART DECORATIVE

This dahlia immediately attracts the attention of all visitors to our gardens. Can best be described as an old rose I. deVer Warner, which speaks for itself.

Tubers, **\$5.00.** Strong Plants, **\$2.50**

ROSE FALLON DECORATIVE

Splendid exhibition variety. Every flower of this variety develops enormous size. Has won consistently as the largest bloom in the show. The beautiful old gold flowers are carried upright on long, stiff stems.

Tubers, \$5.00

LILLIAN HANBURY DECORATIVE

Beautiful, large flower of great depth. Color: Pleasing shade of pink with a distinct reverse of magenta. The best peony-flowered dahlia for exhibition. Extremely strong grower.

Tubers, **\$5.00.** Strong Plants, **\$2.50**

R. T. EDWARDS DECORATIVE

One of the finest in our collection; true to type, extra large flowers, carried on stout stems. Color: Most pleasing shade of pink with distinct reverse of plum. This dahlia was judged as the best dahlia in the Connecticut Horticultural Society Flower Show at Hartford, Conn., September, 1927. Quite an addition to any garden and a dahlia you need for 1928.

Tubers, **\$5.00.** Plants, **\$2.50**

MRS. EDWARDS HYBRID CACTUS

Of fine type, held on strong, straight stems. Color: Orchid. Vigorous grower and a free bloomer. A-1 in all ways.

Tubers, **\$2.50.** Strong Plants, **\$1.50**

MRS. MARY HART DECORATIVE

Large maroon of good type; good stems; vigorous grower and one of the best in its color. Very fine.

Tubers, **\$2.00.** Strong Plants, **\$1.00**

LADY JANE HYBRID CACTUS

Beautiful, large flower, carried on strong, straight stems. Color: A pleasing shade of straw and autumn. Free bloomer.

Tubers, **\$2.00.** Plants, **\$1.00**

E. P. O'CONNOR DECORATIVE

Beautiful flowers, carried on good stems. Color: Opalescent pink, with distinct reverse of purple. It is a splendid and thrifty grower. **Tubers only, \$1.50**

SULPHUR KING DECORATIVE

A very fine sulphur yellow, held erect on strong stems. Vigorous grower, large flower of the finest type. **Tubers only, \$1.50**

HARVEST MOON

Large, fine form flower, on a good stem. Color: Beautiful shade of yellow. Vigorous grower. **Tubers, \$2.50. Plants, \$1.00**

DARK DAYS HYBRID CACTUS

A fine maroon; beautifully formed, large flowers; carried on long, stiff stems. Free bloomer and a good grower. Very fine. Tubers, **\$3.00**. Strong Plants, **\$1.50**

MARION WELLER DECORATIVE

A real fine dahlia, true to type extra large flowers carried on long, straight stems. Color: Pleasing shade of soft pink. Free bloomer. **Tubers only, \$1.00**

THE GIANTESS DECORATIVE

This enormous, beautiful flower of finest form and type; a most pleasing shade of amber. Stems have a tendency to bend slightly. **Tubers only, \$1.00**

POLAR SNOW DECORATIVE

A great, pure white dahlia of the finest type, stems have a tendency to bend slightly. **Tubers only, \$1.00**

BASHFUL GIANT DECORATIVE

Of enormous size. Color is apricot with gold shading. Fine for exhibition. **Tubers only, \$1.00**

THE EMPEROR DECORATIVE

A maroon of the finest type. Enormous size and fine stems. **Tubers only, \$1.00**

JUDGE MAREAN DECORATIVE

Very large flowers of perfect type, color blending of salmon, gold and pink. A very free bloomer. An addition to any garden. **Tubers, \$1.50. Plants, \$1.00**

LA GROSS BETE DECORATIVE

Large; cerise; held on fine stems.

Tubers only, \$1.00

HERCULES DECORATIVE

Quilled; of enormous size. Color: Tangerine and deep yellow, reverse of petals tangerine.

Tubers only, \$1.00

JUDGE A. B. PARKER DECORATIVE

Very large flower, true to form. Color: Golden buff.

Tubers only, \$1.00

MABEL THATCHER DECORATIVE

Large flower of pale yellow, of fine type.

Tubers only \$1.00

MRS. I. deVER WARNER DECORATIVE

One of the very best dahlia blossoms of soft orchid; fine stems and vigorous grower.

Tubers, \$2.00. Plants, \$1.00

MRS. J. T. MAREAN PEONY FLOWERED

Splendid exhibition variety, artistically colored old rose and gold. Every flower of this variety develops enormous size. Vigorous grower.

Tubers, \$2.00. Strong Plants, \$1.00

CHOICEST OF STANDARD DAHLIAS

ALICE WHITTIER H. C.

The color of this beauty is a primrose yellow. The flower is evenly built with long spike-like petals, held on fine stems which makes it very attractive.

Tubers, \$5.00. Strong Plants, \$2.50

E. R. BEAUTY DECORATIVE

A splendid variety. Color: A beautiful combination of pink and cream. Vigorous grower.

Strong Plants only, \$5.00

EAGLE ROCK SUNSHINE H. C.

A very fine variety. Color: Deep shade of yellow. Flowers are large on fine stems.

Strong Plants only, \$3.00

MARMION DECORATIVE

One of the best that has made quite a hit. A large, golden decorative with a bronze tint. Held on fine stems.

Strong Plants only, \$3.00

MRS. ELEANOR MARTIN DECORATIVE

Color: Deep mulberry and rose. The massive blossoms are held on fine stems. Vigorous grower.

Strong Plants only, \$2.00

NICHU H. C.

A fine yellow dahlia, held on fine stems; vigorous grower and a very free bloomer.

Tubers, **\$3.00.** Strong Plants, **\$1.50**

EMMA MARIE H. C.

A very intense pink with white centre. A free bloomer; held on fine stems.

Strong Plants only, \$1.00

EASTERN STAR DECORATIVE

This is a very fine, large flower, held on fine stems. Color: Soft shading of old gold.

Strong Plants only, \$1.50

JERSEY BEAUTY DECORATIVE

A real pink; held on the best of stems. Should be in every collection.

Tubers, **\$2.00.** Strong Plants, **\$1.00**

JERSEY BEACON DECORATIVE

Color: Chinese scarlet. Held on fine stems. A very vigorous grower; fine for exhibition.

Tubers, **\$2.00.** Plants, **\$1.00**

LIVINGSTON GOLD DECORATIVE

Here we have one of the prettiest colors, a beautiful gold. Held on good stems. Fine for cutting.

Tubers, **\$2.00.** Plants, **\$1.00**

RADIO DECORATIVE

Held on fine stems. Very attractive. Color of red and yellow.

Strong Plants only, \$2.00

QUEEN OF THE GARDEN BEAUTIFUL DECORATIVE

A very large, pleasing shade of primrose yellow, held on fine stem. A fine dahlia.

Strong Plants only, \$3.00

LYNDORA DECORATIVE

Color: Beautiful shade of golden yellow. The blossoms are held on fine stems. Vigorous grower.

Strong Plants, \$2.00

ZANTE H. C.

Color: Beautiful combination of amber and yellow.
Free bloomer. **Strong Plants only, \$2.00**

LOST LABEL DAHLIAS

I have a quantity of dahlia tubers that have become mixed in handling. All good varieties. We only grow the best—order now.

\$5.00 per doz. **\$2.50** per half doz.

DAHLIA SEED

We offer for the first time a limited supply. Taken from our collection, which is one of the finest in the country.

We do not save seed from poor flowers. Our seed is fully equal to any and doubt if you can get better. The same as we sow ourselves.

\$3.00 per pkt. of 100 seeds

ORDER EARLY

DELPHINIUM SEED

I sell seed in one dollar packets taken from the famous Wrexham Blackmore and Langdon, also Vanderbilt strains

Our fine delphinium plants were the cynosure of all visitors to our gardens.

SPECIAL INFORMATION

All communications, orders, etc., should be
sent to

THE AUTOCRAT DAHLIA GARDENS
Norwalk, Connecticut

ORDER EARLY

As orders are filled in rotation, ordering early will assure the reservation of varieties that otherwise may be sold out. We never substitute unless directed.

GUARANTEE

We guarantee all tubers and plants true to name and their arrival in good growing condition.

TERMS

Remittance with order ; all retail orders are delivered prepaid.

ORDERS

Orders are carefully filled with tubers strong in quality, selected from clumps which produced healthy, vigorous plants last season.

We ship tubers at planting time, unless otherwise requested.

